

Wallingford Selectboard Meeting  
Minutes  
May 6, 2019

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, John McClallen, Pat Pranger, Rose Regula and Nelson Tift.

Others present: Julie Sharon, Sandi Switzer, Phil Baker, Lisa Williams, Connie Berger, Ed Bove, Michelle Kenny, Justin Filskov, Jim Regula, Carol Macleod, Marc Pramuk, Lois Castonguay, David Castonguay, Erika Berner, and Jeff Biasuzzi via speakerphone.

Chair N. Tift called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

**Agenda Amendments.** Transfer Station 40-yard container repair was added.

**Minutes.** R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to approve the 04/22/19 Minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to approve the 04/29/19 Minutes. Motion carried (4-0). P. Pranger did not vote since she was not at the meeting.

**Pay Orders.** P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula approving the pay order total of \$1,426,746.91 after \$48.11 was added to reimburse Richard Kendall for cedar trees. Motion carried (5-0).

**Public Comments.** J. McClallen thanked Paul Thompson for cleaning out areas adjacent to Creek Road and near the bridge from the Pike driveway to the Thompson property.

Justin Filskov asked about a clerical error regarding a 250-foot setback in the 2015 Zoning regulations that he said should have been a 60-foot setback. He said he planned to construct a shop and the setback error was partially contributing to delays. J. McClallen responded zoning updates must follow a statutory approval process that included board reviews and approvals and then voter approval.

**Transfer Station Container.** Jim Regula said Casella offered to repair the 40-yard container at a cost of \$1650. He questioned whether the Town owned two containers, but Casella reported the account showed only one. A new container would cost \$6100. N. Tift said no funds were budgeted for a container, so he preferred to repair it. B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to repair the container at a cost of \$1650. Motion carried (5-0).

**Road Commissioner Report.** Road Commissioner Phil Baker said the backhoe radiator hose would be replaced on Wednesday. He said the road crew had been patching roads and graded Cook Drive. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer reminded him the Grants In Aid ditching project on Sugar Hill Road required before and after photographs, detailed timesheets with labor and equipment used, and material invoices labeled with the project.

B. Duchesne asked when the road crew would be cleaning out ditches. Mr. Baker responded as soon as it dries out.

S. Switzer informed the road commissioner Rutland County Solid Waste District had room for tires if the road crew was available to bring transfer station tires to Rutland. There was a discussion regarding use of a container at the transfer station for tires with Casella hauling it away. R. Regula said Casella charged by the ton and the container and tires would fill with water during rain storms causing more weight. She opposed the idea and Mr. Baker agreed.

Mr. Baker said he would work with the Town Administrator to prepare paving bid sheets for Mill Street, Railroad Street, North End Drive and the top of East Street. He said the documents would be ready by the next Selectboard meeting.

**Van Wyck Bridge Request for Bids.** Board members and the road commissioner reviewed the Van Wyck Bridge Substructure Repair Request for Bids. P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to approve the document and go out to bid. Motion carried (5-0). S. Switzer indicated the Town would have to advertise it.

**Zoning Questions.** Zoning Administrator Jeff Biasuzzi joined the discussion at 7:05 p.m. via speakerphone. He said the 250 setback in the 2015 Zoning Ordinance was a typographical error discovered during in 2017. He said interim zoning could have been adopted at the time to correct it, but the Selectboard said the planning commission was already working on zoning updates and the application could go to the Development Review Board for a variance. He said the DRB approved the application and the matter was under appeal. He said there was no way to retroactively correct the setback. Mr. Biasuzzi said the only option was to go through the statutory approval process. He indicated he would send an inquiry to Vermont League of Cities and Towns to find out if there was another course of action.

Planning Commission Chair Erika Berner explained the zoning regulation adoption process with public hearings, planning commission and Selectboard approval, and a public vote. She said Zoning Regulations were adopted in 2015 before she joined the planning commission. She added she believed it was a typographical error.

Mr. Biasuzzi then addressed the elimination of the \$2000 exemption for Building Permits. He said the exemption was too often abused by builders/contractors and enforcement was an issue. He said decks, porches and other building projects were completed without Town knowledge and, therefore, not included in property assessments.

**Conservation Commission Budget.** Conservation Commissioner Carol Macleod said Commissioners estimated a \$545 balance in the FY'19 budget. She said they would like to donate the funds to the Events/Communication Committee for the townwide newsletter. By consensus, the Board agreed.

Marc Pramuk said Vermont River Conservancy was interested in obtaining the land behind the fire station for recreational use. He said there had been a discussion regarding the Recreation Committee and Conservation Commission paying for a portion of the land appraisal. He said if VRC secured the property there would be joint discussions regarding use. R. Regula voiced her concerns regarding safety issues with the close proximity to the railroad tracks. B. Duchesne expressed his opposition.

**Recreation Director Job Description.** Recreation Committee Chair Michelle Kenny said modifications in the job description were made after the Board tabled it at the April 22 meeting. P. Pranger questioned whether the education and experience components were too restrictive for a part time position. M. Kenny said a four-year degree with 1 to 2 years of experience was preferred and not mandatory. There was a discussion regarding whether the position was part time year round or seasonal. Ms. Kenny agreed to add seasonal to the description. After further discussion, P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to approve the Recreation Director job description with minor changes. Motion carried (3-2). B. Duchesne and R. Regula voted in the minority.

P. Pranger made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift to advertise for a recreation director. Motion carried (3-2). B. Duchesne and R. Regula voted in the minority.

There was a discussion regarding summer hires. By consensus, the Board agreed to follow the Recreation Committee's recommendation to hire Lawrie Roundy as Summer Recreation Program co-director (along with Lisa Cotrupi), Rosie Phillips as senior counselor for the summer program, and Harrison Steever, Britney Blanchard, Autumn Farmer and Adam Luzader as returning concession stand employees. The Board agreed to wait on additional concession hires until lifeguard posts were filled. The Town received no applications for lifeguards although two applicants applying for concessions agreed to consider lifeguard posts. Without lifeguards, two concession employees would be needed for each shift requiring more hires.

By consensus, the Board agreed to pay the same hourly rates as last year for the summer program posts; returning co-director \$18/hour; new co-director \$16/hour; and senior counselor \$15/hour; concession workers will be paid minimum wage.

R. Regula expressed concern regarding the rates being paid to seasonal workers as opposed to part-time year round employees who were paid lower hourly wages.

Mr. Baker said the issue was not with the summer employee wages, but rather year round employees being underpaid. N. Tift agreed.

There was a discussion regarding lifeguard certification reimbursement. N. Tift made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to reimburse lifeguards and the senior counselor up to \$295 for certification. Motion approved (5-0).

**Municipal Planning Grant.** N. Tift said the Board received two bids for structural repairs to the Wallingford Block as part of the Municipal Planning Grant awarded to the Town.

VMS Construction bid \$24,800 and Russell Construction bid \$29,100 with the grant only funding \$12,650. Wallingford Block owner Michelle Kenny said she preferred the low bidder, VMS Construction. N. Tift asked Ms. Kenny if any of the work outlined in the grant agreement had been initiated. She said no work had been done.

There was a discussion regarding drafting an agreement between VMS, Ms. Kenny and the Town clearly indicating the Town was responsible for \$12,650 in expenses and Ms. Kenny was responsible for all costs above that amount. Rutland Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Ed Bove said VMS could draft an agreement to that effect. The Board agreed by consensus the town attorney should review the draft.

R. Regula made a motion that was seconded by N. Tift accepting VMS Construction's bid of \$24,800 for the Municipal Planning Grant Wallingford Block project with the Town only paying out \$12,650 and Ms. Kenny responsible for the balance. Motion carried (5-0).

**Castonguay Dog Order.** N. Tift provided the Board with a brief overview of a complaint filed by Fred St. Onge regarding the Castonguays' dog. Board members reviewed the written order for fencing, signage and sequestration of the animal when visitors come to the home. Photographs of the fence were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. David Castonguay said 4.5 acres of the property was fenced, including 1200 feet of new fencing. Lois Castonguay said the property was Fort Knox. After further discussion, N. Tift and R. Regula indicated they thought the Castonguays had complied with the order.

**Catering Permit.** B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by P. Pranger approving a New England Smoked Seafood catering permit for a May 11 event at Wallingford Lodge. Motion carried (5-0).

**Selectboard Concerns.** None.

**Executive Session.** B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by J. McClallen to enter Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the evaluation of an employee and public officer under 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(3). Motion carried (5-0).

B. Duchesne made a motion that was seconded by R. Regula to exit Executive Session at 8:38 p.m. No action was taken.

**Other Business.** Board members agreed to meet on Thursday, May 23 at Wallingford Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. with the Tinmouth Selectboard regarding a town line matter involving the Stan Taylor property. Assessor Lisa Wright and former Town Clerk/Treasurer Joyce Barbieri would be invited to the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.  
Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator

Date Approved: 05/22/19